

MUSIC, B.M.

Seven Penn State campuses are scheduled for closure after Spring 2027: DuBois, Fayette, New Kensington, Mont Alto, Shenango, Wilkes-Barre, and York. New students are not being admitted at these campuses.

Begin Campus: University Park

End Campus: University Park

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Music degree in Music with an option in Composition, a minimum of 123 credits is required; with an option in Keyboard Instruments, a minimum of 120 credits is required; with an option in Strings, Winds, Brass and Percussion Instruments, a minimum of 120 credits is required; and with an option in Voice, a minimum of 121 credits is required:

Requirement	Credits
General Education	45
Requirements for the Major	75-79

Requirements for the Major

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the major. To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn at least a C grade in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>).

Common Requirements for the Major (All Options)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
MUSIC 40	First-Year Seminar in Music	1
MUSIC 101	Music Common Hour	1
MUSIC 121	Basic Musicianship I	1
MUSIC 122	Basic Musicianship II	1
MUSIC 131	Music Theory I	2
MUSIC 132	Music Theory II	2
MUSIC 162	Introduction to Music History	2
MUSIC 221	Basic Musicianship III	1
MUSIC 222	Basic Musicianship IV	1
MUSIC 231	Music Theory III	2
MUSIC 261	Survey of Music History I	3
MUSIC 262	Survey of Music History II	3
MUSIC 266	Basic Conducting	1
MUSIC 270	Keyboard Skills IV: Music Major	1
MUSIC 332	Analysis of Twentieth Century Music	2
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 3 credits from the following:		3
MUSIC 461W	Studies in Music History: Antiquity to 1600	
MUSIC 462W	Studies in Music History: 1550-1750	
MUSIC 463W	Studies in Music History: 1700-1900	
MUSIC 464W	Studies in Music History: 1850-Present	
Select an additional 3 credits from the following:		3

MUSIC 409	Popular Music Analysis
MUSIC 431	Advanced Tonal Analysis
MUSIC 433	Advanced Analysis of Twentieth-Century Music

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>	
Select 4 credits of approved ensembles (see School of Music Handbook for list of ensembles)	4

Requirements for the Option

<i>Requirements for the Option: Require a grade of C or better</i>	
Select an option	41-45

Requirements for the Option Composition Option (44-45 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
MUSIC 127	Introduction to Music Technology	1
MUSIC 173	First-Year Composition Seminar	2
MUSIC 174	Composition II	2
MUSIC 273	Composition III	2
MUSIC 274	Composition IV	2
MUSIC 373	Composition V	3
MUSIC 374	Composition VI	3
MUSIC 431	Advanced Tonal Analysis	3
MUSIC 433	Advanced Analysis of Twentieth-Century Music	3
MUSIC 458	Electronic Music Composition I	3
MUSIC 473	Composition VII	3
MUSIC 474	Composition VIII	3

Additional Courses

<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>	
Select 5-6 credits from the following:	5-6

INART 258A	Fundamentals of Digital Audio
MUSIC 401	Scoring for Film and Media
MUSIC 439	Sound Design For Game Audio
MUSIC 451	Computer Programming for Musicians
MUSIC 452	Computer Music Synthesis
MUSIC 453	Recording Studio Training
MUSIC 454	Live Sound Engineer Training
MUSIC 459	Electronic Music Composition II
THEA 484	Sound Recording Techniques

Select 8 credits of Applied MUSIC courses	8
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Supporting Courses and Related Areas

<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>	
Select 1 credit of electives	1

Keyboard Instruments Option (41-42 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better		
MUSIC 481	Keyboard Literature	3
Additional Courses		
Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better		
Select 2-3 credits from the following:		2-3
MUSIC 181	Jazz Improvisation I	

MUSIC 182	Jazz Improvisation II	
MUSIC 267	Techniques of Composition	
MUSIC 409	Popular Music Analysis	
MUSIC 420	Song Writing and Recording	
MUSIC 422	Jazz Harmony and Arranging	
MUSIC 423	Music Entrepreneurship	
MUSIC 431	Advanced Tonal Analysis	
MUSIC 433	Advanced Analysis of Twentieth-Century Music	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better

MUSIC 419	Piano Pedagogy I	2
or MUSIC 424	Piano Pedagogy II	
Select 6 credits of electives		6
Select 24 credits in applied music through Level VIII of performance		24
Select 4 credits of approved ensembles (see School of Music Handbook for list of ensembles)		4

Strings, Winds, Brass and Percussion Instruments Option (41-43 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
Additional Courses		
<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
MUSIC 485	Chamber Music Literature	3
or MUSIC 487	Orchestral Literature	
Select 2-3 credits from the following:		2-3
MUSIC 86	Percussion Ensemble	
MUSIC 87	Mallet Ensemble	
MUSIC 181	Jazz Improvisation I	
MUSIC 188	Chamber Music for Mixed Ensemble	
MUSIC 190	Chamber Music for Strings	
MUSIC 191	Chamber Music for Woodwinds	
MUSIC 192	Chamber Music for Brass	
MUSIC 366	Intermediate Conducting	
MUSIC 420	Song Writing and Recording	
MUSIC 421	Jazz Combo Class	
MUSIC 422	Jazz Harmony and Arranging ¹	
MUSIC 423	Music Entrepreneurship	
MUSIC 466	Advanced Conducting II	
MUSIC 485	Chamber Music Literature	
MUSIC 487	Orchestral Literature	
Select 2-3 credits from the following:		2-3
MUSIC 181	Jazz Improvisation I	
MUSIC 182	Jazz Improvisation II	
MUSIC 267	Techniques of Composition	
MUSIC 409	Popular Music Analysis	
MUSIC 422	Jazz Harmony and Arranging ¹	
MUSIC 431	Advanced Tonal Analysis	
MUSIC 433	Advanced Analysis of Twentieth-Century Music	
Select 1 credit from the following:		1
MUSIC 414	String Pedagogy	
MUSIC 415	Woodwind Pedagogy	
MUSIC 416	Brass Pedagogy	
MUSIC 417	Percussion Pedagogy	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 9 credits of electives		9
Select 20 credits in applied music through Level VIII of performance		20
Select 4 credits of approved ensembles (see School of Music Handbook for list of ensembles)		4

¹ MUSIC 422 may fulfill the requirement of Additional Courses or Supporting Courses and Related Areas in the option, but not both.

Voice Option (42-43 credits)

Code	Title	Credits
Prescribed Courses		
<i>Prescribed Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
MUSIC 387	Language Diction for Singers: Italian and English	1
MUSIC 388	Language Diction for Singers: French	1
MUSIC 389	Language Diction for Singers: German	1
MUSIC 418	Voice Pedagogy	2

Additional Courses

<i>Additional Courses: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
Select 2-3 credits from the following:		2-3
MUSIC 181	Jazz Improvisation I	
MUSIC 182	Jazz Improvisation II	
MUSIC 267	Techniques of Composition	
MUSIC 409	Popular Music Analysis	
MUSIC 420	Song Writing and Recording	
MUSIC 422	Jazz Harmony and Arranging	
MUSIC 423	Music Entrepreneurship	
MUSIC 431	Advanced Tonal Analysis	
MUSIC 433	Advanced Analysis of Twentieth-Century Music	

Supporting Courses and Related Areas

<i>Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better</i>		
MUSIC 478	Vocal Literature	3
or MUSIC 480	Opera Literature	
Select 8 credits in one or two world languages: French, German or Italian		8
Select 20 credits in applied music through Level VIII of performance		20
Select 4 credits of approved ensembles (see School of Music Handbook for list of ensembles)		4

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program/>) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required and Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Quantification (GQ):** 6 credits
- **Writing and Speaking (GWS):** 9 credits

Breadth in the Knowledge Domains (Inter-Domain courses do not meet this requirement.)

- **Arts (GA):** 3 credits
- **Health and Wellness (GHW):** 3 credits
- **Humanities (GH):** 3 credits
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS):** 3 credits
- **Natural Sciences (GN):** 3 credits

Integrative Studies

- **Inter-Domain Courses (Inter-Domain):** 6 credits

Exploration

- **GN**, may be completed with Inter-Domain courses: 3 credits
- **GA, GH, GN, GS, Inter-Domain courses.** This may include 3 credits of World Language course work beyond the 12th credit level or the requirements for the student's degree program, whichever is higher: 6 credits

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- **United States Cultures:** 3 credits
- **International Cultures:** 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.

Quality of Work

Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition

The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or

within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 (<https://senate.psu.edu/students/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/>)). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.